

One Page Statement

Welcome to my portfolio for the 2018 NSPA Designer of the Year contest. My design work is from the 2018 "Because It Is" Yearbook at Brighton High School as the Co-Editor-In-Chief and Director of Digital Media on the Reflections Yearbook staff. My designs encompass not only my love for journalism but the power I hold in making the student's of my school's stories shine the way they show. As the Co-EIC, I was able to work with individual groups on the staff and help teach them the fundamental designs. I worked with them to revise their designs through a different revision tasks. The designs I have in this portfolio, are the designs that I worked on throughout the year while reporters on staff gathered coverage.

My friends, my family, and even my baseball coaches ask me, *why do you do all the things that you do for the yearbook?* I tell them very simply, why not? Journalism has made me constantly tell myself to trust the process and to continue to hold the vision. When a day has gone on long at baseball practice, I know that I can run after to the yearbook room and jump on a computer and tell stories about those students in our school that may not have a voice. When customers in the Target lines at my work aren't the nicest people, I can head home and jump on my laptop and design my thoughts and ideas about stories and bring them to life visually. It became my outlet from all of the other things that make my life what it is today. The feedback I've received has not only changed me as a journalist but as a person. The stories of student's that I'm able to tell make it all worth it. They don't become just another student that fills the halls. They have a story, a story that needs to be shared and represent this time in our lives as high school students. Through my designs, I am able to tell their stories.

Descriptions of Pages

002-003; Opening 1, Believe the Hype

From the great emotion in the dominant photo, to the varying typography in the theme copy, this Opening is meant to leave the reader from our school with goosebumps while screaming our theme, "Because It Is." The dominant photo caption lays behind the dominant element's head and even a photo in the package has the flag half cut-out. The ACD features 4 more students who answer the general question and this page opens our book and prepares the reader for what's to come.

024-025; Current Events, BECAUSE Opportunity is Coming Together in a Time of Need

The dominant element in the dominant photo is half cut-out to interact with the dominant story on the photo as well as its caption is in the pinkish box in the dead space of the photo. I also used photos from Creative Commons to relate the events in our school to events that were occurring across the nation. I wanted to inform our readers about each of these issues while then telling the stories of the students who were affected by them.

Please Note* The kneeling mod was designed by Rebecca Wadsworth.

072-073; Paint War, BECAUSE Learning is Welcoming New Faces:

My photographer was creative in covering the events and used many different angles to provide me with very strong photos, something I felt the need to showcase with a large photo package, and the dead space between the dominant girl with the handprint on her face and the girl with the goggles on the left gave me the perfect opportunity to place the dominant headline and story right on the photo. I also tied back in the quote box, in green in this case, with a fully cut-out photo that fits in relation to the dominant package. 6 different stories, all within the theme of welcoming new faces, cover the spread while all varying in size and look. Some use graphical elements like the mod in the top right, and some even have a cut-out photo in the mod to keep the viewer's experience fresh.

099-100; Mill Levy, BECAUSE Performance is Spreading the News:

The dominant package features pictures from all the different events students and staff participated in on their quest to pass the 3D Mill Levy. The dominant photo features a half cut-out background in relation to the green quote box for the dominant caption. I also featured a mod with a graph and a larger font quote from the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Christopher Fielder. The 5 stories on the page encompass the total realm of the event from the ACD, to the mods even covering events that the previous bond, 3C, affected.

174-175; Wyatt Verbeek, Junior Section Opening

My photographer spent a day with Verbeek on his farm and allowed me to get a great range of coverage and photos for this page. Verbeek in the dominant photo is partially cut-out to interact with his dominant caption, which is placed in the brownish box behind his head. Also, a timeline of what his day consists of sits on the dead space in the beautiful, blue Colorado sky, adding additional coverage to an already very unique story on Verbeek. The ACD has four juniors asked a general question and gives the reader a refreshers from the student photos and really gives this story the attention it deserves.

**BE
CAUSE**
WHAT ARE
YOU LOOKING
FORWARD TO
MOST THIS YEAR?
A BEGINNING IS

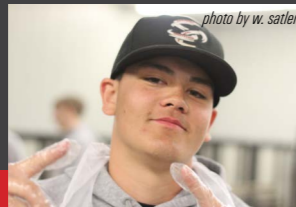


photo by w. satler
"I'M LOOKING FORWARD MOST TO SEEING NEW PEOPLE, SPENDING TIME WITH MY FRIENDS, AND LEARNING NEW AND EXCITING THINGS IN ALL MY CLASSES. ALL IN ALL, I'M JUST EXCITED TO SPEND ANOTHER YEAR WITH ALL MY HOMIES AT SCHOOL."
NOLAN ARCHULETA '20



photo by e. choka
"I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO THE START OF A BRAND NEW YEAR. IT'S ALWAYS GOOD TO GET A FRESH START, AND THAT IS THE NUMBER ONE THING I LIKE ABOUT STARTING UP A NEW YEAR. IT WILL BE A GOOD YEAR."
BRADY GRAY '19



photo by w. satler
"I AM REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO FINISHING MY LAST YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL. I CAN'T WAIT TO BE ON STAGE IN THE PLAYS AND THE MUSICAL WHILE MAKING MEMORIES WITH MY FRIENDS."
CASSANDRA THOMAS '18



photo by s. demers
"THIS YEAR I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO NOT BEING A FRESHMAN ANYMORE. WHEN I WAS A FRESHMAN GOING INTO HIGH SCHOOL I WAS PRETTY NERVOUS BUT NOW I KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT."
JORDAN MAHAFFEY '20

003
OPENING

IS BELIEVING THE HYPE

OPENING ONE
page by
s. demers &
w. satler

STOP FOR AN INTERVIEW.

After a Superintendent's Cup victory over cross-town rival, Prairie View High School, Zachary McCormack '19 pauses for an interview with local reporter, Steve Smith. "When I was interviewed by Steve [Smith] I felt like I was not only representing my team, but my entire community," McCormack said.
photo by w. satler

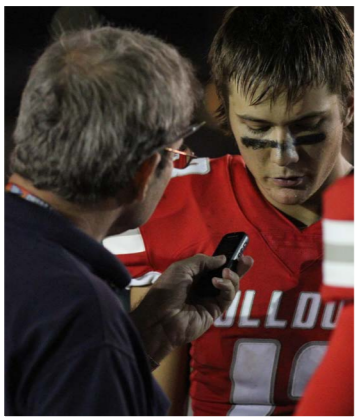


"I AM A BULLDOG AND I HAVE BEEN SINCE THE START. I MAKE SURE TO REPRESENT MY SCHOOL, MY COMMUNITY AND WHO I AM WHEN I AM SUPPORTING OUR TEAMS NO MATTER WHAT."

- LUCAS MARTINEZ

THIS IS OUR HOUSE. During a baseball game against Legacy High School, Lucas Martinez '19 screams in the stands after a run scored for his team. *photo by w. satler*

THIS IS MY PUMPKIN. While holding their carved pumpkins on top of their heads, Halie Litwin '19 and Brayden Schlitt '19 snap a photo to finish up their date. "I'm so thankful that I'm able to start new traditions with the people that I love like Brayden and creating memories for the future."
Litwin said, photo by h. litwin



ROUND UP THOSE STEERS.

Working on the farm, Loyd Atkins '19 and Wyatt Verbeek '19 fill up the feed trough to feed their new steers. "Working on the farm is definitely my way of life," Atkins said. "I grew up working like this and I wouldn't want it any other way. This is my family's roots and I want to continue it forever." *photo by s. demers*



THIS IS MY SCHOOL SPIRIT.

Holding up a baseball flag, Angelique Montoya-Johnson '18 poses for an Instagram photo before the Superintendent's Cup game. "These rivalry games will always be my favorite memory from high school," Montoya-Johnson said. "The Friday Night Lights, the team, and the school spirit always makes going to these games worth going to. I love this town and it's tradition."
photo by s. demers

BELIEVE THE HYPE.

WE KNOW THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE BRIGHTON.

Retweet. #SkoDawgs.

ON GAME DAYS WE WEAR RED,

pack the stadium with our small town

and chant "The Fight Song"

while we unleash our **Bulldog pride.**

IT'S ALL HERE. IT'S ONLY HERE.

Tractors cruising down County Road 2,

a firework show at Carmichael Park

and picking the right pumpkin

at Berry Patch Farms.

THIS TOWN. THIS SCHOOL.

**WE CALL
IT HOME.**

WHY?

BECAUSE IT MATTERS

WHAT CURRENT EVENT FROM THIS SCHOOL YEAR HAS HAD THE MOST IMPACT ON YOU?



photo by b. wadsworth

"THE LAS VEGAS SHOOTING IMPACTED ME BECAUSE I KNEW SOME PEOPLE THERE AT THE TIME. I'M SO THANKFUL THAT THEY WERE OKAY. IT CERTAINLY MAKES ME APPRECIATE LIFE A LITTLE BIT MORE."

JADON LOCKWOOD '21



photo by s. rolls

"I HAVE A COUSIN GOING TO COLLEGE IN FLORIDA, AND WE WERE VERY WORRIED FOR HIS SAFETY DURING HURRICANE IRMA. IT'S SCARY TO THINK ABOUT ALL THE FAMILIES AFFECTED BY THE HURRICANE."

DELANEY TREVINO '20



photo by v. mandragon

"TRUMP BANNED TRANSGENDERS FROM GOING INTO THE MILITARY. I HAVE CLOSE FRIENDS AND FAMILY WHO ARE TRANSGENDERED AND GOING INTO THE MILITARY IS WHAT THEY WANTED TO DO. IT IS NOT OKAY TO DO THIS."

SOLEAH KAZAR '19



photo by b. wadsworth

"I WOULD SAY AS A SCHOOL DACA HAS EFFECTED SOME STUDENTS UNDER THE PROGRAM WHO DON'T WANT TO COME OUT WHEN THERE ARE THOSE PASSIONATE ABOUT ENDING IT."

DYLAN FISHER '18

025 OPPORTUNITY

IS COMING TOGETHER IN A TIME OF NEED

DACA, HURRICANE, NFL KNEELING, WOMEN'S MARCH
page by w. satter and b. wadsworth's and s.rolls' group



TO KNEEL OR NOT TO

STUDENT SHARE THEIR OPINIONS ON NFL PLAYERS KNEELING DURING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

WHY DID NFL PLAYERS KNEEL?

Protests erupted in the National Football League after San Francisco 49er's quarterback Colin Kaepernick knelt during "The National Anthem." With over 200 fellow players following in his footsteps, professional athletes sat or took a knee instead of standing to challenge race inequality and police brutality, while still not breaking league rules. People across the nation were torn between labelling it disrespectful or necessary. photo by Keith Allison from Hanover, MD, USA San Francisco 49ers National Anthem Kneeling, cc-by 4.0.



"THE NFL HAS A LOT OF INFLUENCE ON U.S. SOCIETY AND THEY ARE A MAJOR CORPORATION NOT RUN BY THE GOVERNMENT. THEY CAN CHOOSE WHAT TO ENDORSE AND WHAT NOT TO. IT'S NOT DISRESPECT, IT'S A CHOICE," QUINN HODGE '19 SAID.



"I BELIEVE THAT IF YOU'RE IN THIS COUNTRY, IT HAS ITS BELIEFS AND PEOPLE WHO HAVE DIED FOR OUR FREEDOMS. ALTHOUGH EVERYONE HAS THEIR FREEDOM OF SPEECH, THEY SHOULD STILL STAND AS A SIGN OF RESPECT FOR OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM," LEAH GILSON '19 SAID.

WHAT DID BHS DO TO SUPPORT STUDENTS?

WHEN DACA BECAME AN ISSUE FOR HER STUDENTS, EUGENIA MONREAL, SPANISH TEACHER, TOOK ACTION. In order to comfort students under DACA, Monreal partook in creating a poster to hang in the lobby. Monreal signed and got other staff members to sign the poster in order to show their support to these students. "I WANTED TO DO SOMETHING BECAUSE I WORK WITH A LOT OF THESE STUDENTS EVERYDAY THAT ARE FACING THIS," MONREAL SAID. "WE CHOSE TO DO THIS JUST TO LET KIDS KNOW THAT THEY HAVE THIS KIND OF SUPPORT IN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY AND LET THEM KNOW THAT WE CARE EVEN THOUGH WE CANNOT FIX THE SITUATION, THEY CAN'T STOP DREAMING." photos by b. wadsworth



BECAUSE DACA HELPED ME

ANA VALLADARES SHARES HER EXPERIENCE UNDER DACA AND WHAT'S NEXT FOR HER



WHAT IS DACA?
The U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced an end to the DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) program in September. This program gave benefits to approximately 800,000 individuals, as of 2017, who entered the country illegally as minors. The policy was created by the Barack Obama administration in 2012, and was rescinded in September 2017 by the administration of President Donald Trump. Individuals under the protection of DACA are often referred to "Dreamers" after the DREAM Act Bill. photo of president donald trump by michael vadon, cc-by 4.0. photo of daca protesters in san francisco by par ahimsa gethen, cc-by 4.0.

LET'S HELP MAN'S BEST FRIEND

HALLE BELL AND MORGAN SMITH FOSTER DOGS FROM THE HURRICANE IN TEXAS



WHAT WAS HURRICANE HARVEY?

Hurricane Harvey was a costly tropical cyclone to the United States, which caused over \$125 billion in damages with flooding mainly in the Houston metropolitan area. In a period of four days, many areas received more than 40 inches of rainfall as the storm passed over eastern Texas. Harvey caused a confirmed 91 deaths and was the most expensive natural disaster in the United States so far. photo of Hurricane Harvey from ABI image captured by NOAA's GOES-16 satellite, cc-by 4.0.



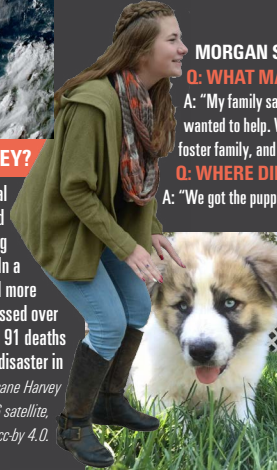
HALLE BELL '18

Q: WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO FOSTER DOGS?
A: "I saw a post on Facebook. I tagged my mom in it kind of as a joke. The next day she told me that our application had gotten accepted and that was that. It was exciting."

Q: WHERE DID THE DOGS COME FROM?
A: "We got them from Douglas County, who drove to Houston to get them."

Q: HOW MANY DOGS DID YOU FOSTER?
A: "We had two black labs who were two weeks old, and fostered for about a month."

Q: WHAT WAS IT LIKE SAYING GOODBYE?
A: "It was sad, and I will really miss them because we certainly became attached. It felt good to give back."



MORGAN SMITH '18

Q: WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO FOSTER DOGS?
A: "My family saw how bad Texas was hit with the hurricanes, and we wanted to help. We saw that Lifeline Puppy Rescue was looking for a foster family, and we knew that was the way we could help."

Q: WHERE DID THE DOGS COME FROM?
A: "We got the puppies from somewhere in Texas and fostered them for about two weeks. They were so cute."

Q: HOW MANY DOGS DID YOU FOSTER?
A: "We had two dogs, they were 7 weeks, and were Australian Shepherd-Great Pyrenees mixes."

Q: WHAT WAS IT LIKE SAYING GOODBYE?
A: "It was hard because I got so attached to them. I certainly do miss them a lot."

photos by l. small and courtesy m. smith and h. bell

"AT FIRST I TRIED NOT TO THINK ABOUT WHAT WAS HAPPENING WITH DACA MUCH, AND I TRIED TO HAVE A GOOD ATTITUDE ABOUT IT, BUT IT HIT ME THAT I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GO TO COLLEGE AND MY FUTURE MAY NOT TURN OUT THE WAY I PLANNED."

- ANA VALLADARES

Working at the front counter, Ana Valladares '19 puts in an order for a customer while working the night shift at the Wendy's fast food restaurant. Valladares was able to get this job by obtaining a permit through the DACA program. photos by b. wadsworth



By obtaining a two year work permit under DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals), Ana Valladares '19 was able to get her first job at a local Wendy's restaurant.

"WHENEVER YOU APPLY FOR A PERMIT YOU HAVE TO FILL OUT A LOT OF INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF AND PROVE THAT YOU'VE LIVED HERE. THEN YOU MAIL YOUR APPLICATION AND WAIT FOR ABOUT THREE WEEKS FOR APPROVAL OR DENIAL," VALLADARES SAID. "WHEN I GOT MY PERMIT I WAS RELIEVED AND GLAD I WOULD BE ABLE TO WORK AND GIVEN ADVANTAGES TO BUY MY OWN THINGS AND SAVE UP FOR COLLEGE."

Being under the program gave students hope that they could continue their education into college, according to Valladares. Valladares hoped to pursue a career in the medical field as a surgeon.

"WITH DACA, I FELT LIKE I ACTUALLY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO GO TO A UNIVERSITY. I HOPE TO BE A SURGEON, NEUROSURGEON, OR A PLASTIC SURGEON. THE HUMAN ANATOMY AMAZES ME AND I'D LIKE TO GO INTO A CAREER RELATED TO IT," VALLADARES SAID.

According to Valladares, students under this program like herself were struggling to understand what was next for them with Trump's decision to end the program.

"I FELT PRETTY LOW OF MYSELF, BUT MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY LET ME KNOW I'M NOT ALONE AND THINGS WILL TURN OUT IN A POSITIVE WAY. I JUST HAVE TO HAVE HOPE THAT I WILL HAVE EVERY OPPORTUNITY POSSIBLE TO MAKE MY DREAMS COME TRUE," VALLADARES SAID.



MARCHING TOWARDS CHANGE
LANEY TUTTLE PARTICIPATES IN WOMEN'S MARCH IN DENVER

"I WANTED TO BE AT THE WOMEN'S MARCH FOR THE PEOPLE WHO DON'T HAVE A CHOICE IN SAYING AND DOING WHAT THEY WANT," LANEY TUTTLE '19 SAID. "PEOPLE MADE SIGNS AND SHIRTS SAYING WHAT NEEDS TO BE SAID RIGHT NOW. IT'S COOL KNOWING THAT YOU'RE DOING SOMETHING POSITIVE AND FIGHTING BACK FOR THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT WITH THOUSANDS OF OTHER PEOPLE." photo courtesy l. tuttle



WHAT IS THE WOMEN'S MARCH?

On January 20, women (as well as some men) in Denver and across the country peacefully protested in order to obtain equal rights and challenge oppressive systems. The movement began in 2017 in Washington D.C. in order to send a message to newly inaugurated President Donald Trump in response to his anti-feminist statements. The march has collectively been the largest single political demonstration since the anti-Vietnam war protests in the 1960s. photo of Our Bodies Our Mind Our Power by Fibonacc Blue, cc-by 4.0.

BECAUSE
WELCOMING IS

HOW HAVE YOU FELT WELCOMED TO THE HIGH SCHOOL?



"WHAT MADE ME FEEL WELCOMED HERE WAS HOW COOL THE TEACHERS CAN BE AND HOW THEY SUPPORT YOUR EDUCATION. THE STUDENTS AROUND THE SCHOOL HELPED ME OUT, TOO, WHICH WAS NICE."

ELI HUERTA '21



"I CAME INTO BRIGHTON NOT KNOWING ANYONE OR WHERE ANYTHING WAS, BUT MAKING FRIENDS [LIKE ADARIANA GURULE '20] MADE IT EASIER FOR ME TO FEEL WELCOMED, ESPECIALLY MY NEW FRIENDS."

DANAE MARTINEZ '20



"I WAS WELCOMED BY TEACHERS LIKE MRS. [CHRISTINA] CAPRA-INGLE. I KNEW STUDENTS FROM BRIGHTON BEFORE I SWITCHED, SO THE TRANSITION WASN'T HARD AT ALL."

OLIVIA NEWCOMER '19



"I CAME INTO BRIGHTON KNOWING ONLY A FEW PEOPLE, BUT NOW I FEEL LIKE I'M APART OF A BIG FAMILY THANKS TO SPORTING EVENTS AND MY FRIENDS [JACE WHELAN '18 AND EMMA ATKINS '18]."

SHANNON PETERSON '18

IS WELCOMING NEW FACES

PAINT WAR, FIRST JOBS, DYLAN KROLL, VARSITY PLAYERS, EMMA ATKINS, NEW TO HIGH SCHOOL
 page by
 k. fernandez & j. whelan group

MEMORIES

STAINING OUR THOUGHTS

STUDENTS GATHER TOGETHER FOR THE ANNUAL CAMPUS LIFE PAINT WAR AT THE BRIGHTON RECREATIONAL CENTER PARK

CAMPUS LIFE WAS AN ORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDED SAFE AND FUN ACTIVITIES FOR TEENS IN THE TOWN WEEKLY.

Students from all around town gathered to participate in the annual Paint War event. At Paint War, students went through a series of activities challenging both their team work and ability to work alone, according to Cassidy Blakey '19.

"I MADE SOME NEW FRIENDS AND IT WAS A LOT OF FUN TO GET TO THROW PAINT AT ONE ANOTHER. I LIKED HOW WE COULD TAKE EVERYTHING WE GOT HOME," **BLAKEY SAID.**

Students lined up after the war to get hosed off by the Brighton Fire Department, who had attended the event for the first time.

"THIS WAS THE FIRST YEAR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT WAS THERE TO HELP US CLEAN OFF. THERE WAS SO MUCH PAINT, BUT IT WAS A LOT OF FUN BEING ABLE TO BE APART OF A SOMETHING THAT BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER," **EMILY ALBERT '20 SAID.**



"I AM SO GLAD I DID NOT MISS THE PAINT WAR. IT WAS SUPER FUN GETTING TO GO AGAINST MY FRIENDS TO SEE WHICH TEAM WOULD WIN IN THE END. IT WAS A MESSY WAR BUT WE HAD A BLAST."
 - **MACKENZIE DENT**

SQUEEZE THE SPONGE. During the Campus Life Paint War, Mackenzie Dent '18 squeezes a sponge filled with paint above her head to go paint her opponents canvas. *photo by c. larkins*



PLAY TO WIN. Zach Bolyard '19, along with Isaac Wagner '19, Cameron Harris '19, and Nakita Christian '20 participate in pass the cup during the Campus Life Paint War. To win, teams had to pass the cup down the row the fastest. "My favorite part of the war was having the fire trucks spray us down at the end of everything," Bolyard said.



DUMP THE YELLOW PAINT. Kaitlynn Goldermann '18 drops a balloon filled with paint on Nicole Farmer '20 during a game of Drip Drip Drop. The game was similar to Duck Duck Goose. "I loved the anticipation of not knowing when the paint would drop on you and laughing at others when the paint would be getting dropped on them," Goldermann said. "We got to see their reactions, which was fun." *photos by c. larkins*



LET'S GET MESSY. Starr Mullaney '20 smiles as she pours a cup of orange paint on herself at the Campus Life Paint War. This was the first time Mullaney had attended the event. "I had an amazing time meeting new people and having fun with my friends," Mullaney said.

GRAB THE SPONGE. Nakita Christian '20 and her team race with paint sponges to beat other teams to finish painting a canvas. "My favorite part was when everyone went after each other with the paint. It got messy, but it was hilarious," Christian said. *photos by c. larkins*

HANDS IN TEAM. Nicole Farmer '18 huddles with her senior teammates at the Campus Life Paint War. Teams were divided by grade and had been given their own color of paint. The activity was to cover your opponent's canvas. "In the end we had to see who did the most damage. The seniors obviously won, but it was nice that we were able to interact with people who aren't just seniors. The fire department had joined this year and sprayed us off afterwards, which was very helpful," Farmer said. *photo by c. larkins*

THE LETTER TO MY FUTURE

EMMA ATKINS RECEIVES FIRST ACCEPTANCE LETTER TO COLORADO STATE

WHO: EMMA ATKINS '18
WHERE: COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
WHY: "WHEN I OPENED MY LETTER FROM CSU, I FELT SUPER EXCITED. MY FUTURE IS FINALLY BECOMING A REALITY, AND I AM READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD. RIGHT NOW I AM UNDECIDED, BUT I AM PLANNING TO GET SOME TYPE OF LAW DEGREE."

THIS IS ALL NEW

ANTHONY MONTANO AND BELLA BARONE PLAY NEW VARSITY SPORTS

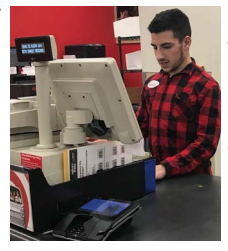
WHO: Anthony Montano '18
SPORT: Varsity Football
FACTS: Montano main sport was basketball but wanted to try football. Montano attended two practices a day over the summer while also doing basketball. He earned a position as the second string varsity quarterback.

WHY HE JOINED FOOTBALL: "MY FRIENDS PLAYED, AND I WANTED A FUN SENIOR YEAR WITH ALL NEW EXPERIENCES. THE COACHES AND PLAYERS WERE HELPFUL DURING PRACTICE AND WATCHING FILM HELPED ME IMPROVE."

WHO: Bella Barone '20
SPORT: Varsity Volleyball
FACTS: Barone was unable to play freshmen year due to playing another sport. Barone made the junior varsity team but swung up to varsity. The team put together bonding events like team dinners to come together to bond.

WHAT SHE HAS LEARNED: "THE GIRLS WERE ALL REALLY NICE ALONG WITH TEACHING ME NEW SKILLS WHICH THE COACHES HELPED WITH, TOO. WE LIKE TO CHEER EACH OTHER ON DURING GAMES. I AM GLAD TO BE PART OF THE TEAM."

IT IS MY FIRST JOB
STUDENTS EXPLAIN WHY THEY ENJOY THEIR WORK PLACE



NATHAN HANSEN '18 APPLIED FOR HIS FIRST JOB AT TARGET NEAR THE PRAIRIE CENTER. Over the last two years, he has found the work environment fun and friendly while learning a lot about responsibility.

"I LOVE THAT I GET TO WORK WITH MY BOYS AND HAVE SOME OF THE COOLEST BOSSES. I LOVE GETTING TO MEET AND TALK WITH NEW PEOPLE EVERYDAY. I GOT A JOB SO I COULD MAKE MONEY LIVE THE LUXURY OF HAVING NICE THINGS," **HANSEN SAID.**



SEARCHING FOR A FUN JOB, ALYSSA PEREZ '20 LANDED AT ODOBA NEAR THE PAVILIONS. Perez had been looking for a job that would work with her schedule as well as looking for a way to earn her own money so she could pay for her own things instead of relying on her mom.

"I ENJOY WORKING WITH OTHER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SO I KNOW WE'RE ALL ON THE SAME LEVEL OF LEARNING ON HOW TO DO OUR JOBS AND TRYING TO LEARN HOW TO BALANCE WORK AND SCHOOL," **PEREZ SAID.**

PUPPY LOVE

DYLAN KROLL ADOPTS A PUPPY FROM HURRICANE HARVEY

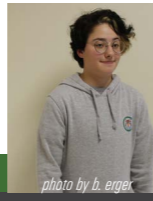
DYLAN KROLL'S '18 FAMILY ADOPTED A BOXER LAB MIX FROM HURRICANE HARVEY. Kroll's mom had gone to the local co-op and saw puppies who needed rescued and purchased one.

"CHARLIE HAS BECOME A HUGE PART OF OUR FAMILY. IT'S NICE TO HAVE SOMETHING TO TAKE CARE OF AND TO ALSO HAVE ANOTHER RESPONSIBILITY. I'M GLAD WE ADOPTED HIM BECAUSE IF WE WOULDN'T HAVE, HE MAY HAVE GOTTEN EUTHANIZED," **KROLL SAID.**



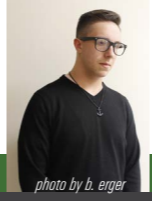
"I WOULD MAKE THE HALLS MORE STUDENT FRIENDLY SO THAT THEY HAVE A SAFE PLACE TO BE DURING DOWN TIME, AND I WOULD LIKE TO REQUIRE MORE CTE CREDITS SO THAT STUDENTS ARE PREPARED FOR THE WORK FORCE."

GABRIEL BERLAND '19



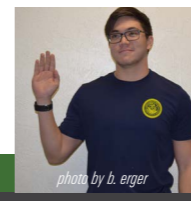
"I WOULD ADD GENDER NEUTRAL BATHROOMS. IF THAT ISN'T POSSIBLE, MORE SAFE SPACES OR HAVE IMPORTANT STUDENT RESOURCES ADVERTISED MORE IF THAT MAKES SENSE."

CHEYENNE PHILLIPS '21



"IF I HAD TO CHOOSE ANYTHING TO HELP THE SCHOOL, IT WOULD BE GIVING IT MONEY OR BY HELPING DO SOME TYPE OF FUND RAISER, SO THAT WE CAN GET MORE MONEY TO HAVE MORE RESOURCES."

KYLE HARLIN '20



"TO IMPROVE THE SCHOOL I WOULD INCREASE ATTENDANCE BY PUSHING FOR STRICTER RULES. IN ORDER TO DO GOOD YOU HAVE TO DO YOUR WORK, AND TO DO YOUR WORK YOU HAVE TO BE HERE."

KEVIN MULLINAX '18

3D MILL LEVY: JANE ARCHULETA. FACTS ABOUT THE MILL LEVY: JANE ARCHULETA.

page by w. satler, a. overstreet and j. bishop's group

PLEASE VOTE YES FOR 3D

BOARD OF EDUCATION AND IAM27J SUPPORT MILL LEVY OVERRIDE CAMPAIGN ON NOVEMBER BALLOT

WITH SCHOOL DISTRICT 27J BEING ONE OF THE LOWEST FUNDED DISTRICTS IN THE STATE, THE BOARD OF EDUCATION SOUGHT IDEAS FROM THE COMMUNITY. In the 2015 election, 12,569 community members voted yes on Bond 3C, which provided the district funds to build three schools as well as renovate existing schools. With the bond helping in these areas, there was still a need for funds to provide more resources for classrooms and teacher retention.

In August, IAM27J, a group consisting of district staff, students, and community members, attended a school board meeting where individuals encouraged the Board of Education to put a mill levy on the November ballot.

"INVESTING IN EDUCATION IS INVESTING IN THE SUCCESS OF OUR COMMUNITY. I'VE BEEN FORTUNATE TO HAVE GROWN UP HERE AND AM A THIRD GENERATION BULLDOG," MELISSA WHITE, MARKETING TEACHER, SAID " BEING A TEACHER, I WANT WHAT'S BEST FOR MY STUDENTS AS WELL AS FOR MY NEWBORN SON."

After several speeches from community members, the board voted unanimously to support a 12 million mill levy increase for the district. It appeared on the ballot as 3D. Without a mill levy, the district's current non-inflation based mill/levy brought in 43 dollars per pupil. The next funded district received close to 1,300 dollars. According to Christopher Fielder, Superintendent of Schools, the district had tried and failed to pursue voters in the past to support mill levies in 2003, 2005, 2008, 2010, and 2011. The district had only passed one mill levy override and that was in 2000.

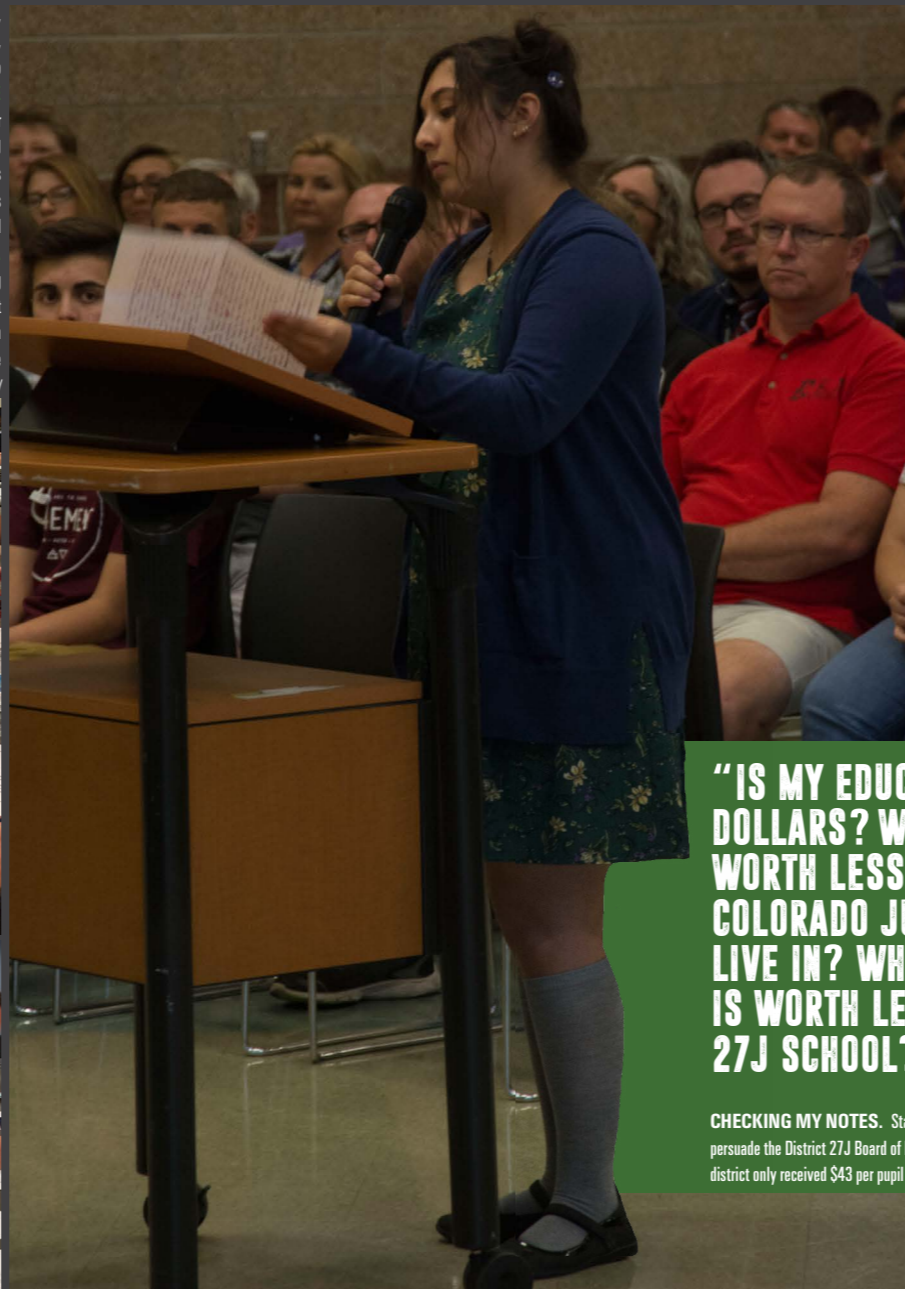
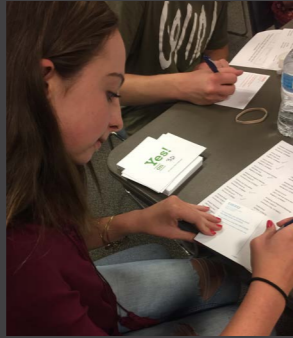
Once the measure was approved by the Board of Education, IAM27J spent September and October doing post card mailing, phone banks, rallies, and walk and knocks to encourage and educate the community on the ballot. Kathey Ruybal, Brighton Education Association President, shared with voters that while she taught at the high school for 23 years, she was using textbooks that were more than 20 years old.

"IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE GET RESOURCES THAT WILL HELP STUDENTS LEARN," RUYBAL SAID. "WE ARE GROWING SO QUICKLY WE CAN HARDLY KEEP UP WITH THE GROWTH, SO WE NEED A MILL TO HELP GET RESOURCES AND RETAIN QUALITY TEACHERS."

In November, the community voted No on 3D. For students like Lauren Halverson '18, this loss was hard to take because it left the district doing more with less.

"IT WAS DISCOURAGING THAT 3D DID NOT PASS BECAUSE IT WAS THE FIRST ISSUE I WORKED ON FROM START TO FINISH. IT'S DISAPPOINTING THAT OUR COMMUNITY COULDN'T SEE THE IMPORTANCE 3D COULD HAVE HAD ON THE STUDENTS AND STAFF OF THIS DISTRICT," HALVERSON SAID.

STACKS OF POSTCARDS Judd Farmer, English teacher, and Michael Clow, District 27J, create a system to finish their list of voters to send postcards to about 3D. **"SPREAD THE WORD"** Signing campaign postcards with other students, Jenna Hays '19 supports the IAM27J 3D campaign. "I wanted to help sign the postcards because I truly believed that we needed to pass 3D for our very underfunded and overcrowded schools," Hays said. **"WORKING TOGETHER"** Elicia Azua '18 and Brock Gagna '18 finish writing post cards to registered voters at the District Training Room. "It was really important to inform the community of the poor funding since people don't realize it," Azua said. photos by a. ruybal



A RALLY ON BRIDGE STREET In order to help spread awareness about the 3D Campaign, students such as Stella Hindman '19, Amanda Ruybal '19, and Reagan Hindman '21 stood outside on the corner of Bridge Street holding signs to encourage the community to vote yes on 3D. Ruybal organized the event by having students in the school sign up through the REMIND system. Ruybal sent out times and dates for students, along with other IAM27J community members, to meet on Bridge Street. "I believe that it was important for us students to participate in events like these to show the community that we do care about our education, and we do want the same opportunities as other school districts," Stella Hindman said.

photo courtesy of k. ruybal



"IS MY EDUCATION WORTH ONLY 43 DOLLARS? WHO IS TO SAY THAT I AM WORTH LESS THAN OTHER STUDENTS IN COLORADO JUST BECAUSE OF THE AREA I LIVE IN? WHO IS TO SAY MY EDUCATION IS WORTH LESS JUST BECAUSE I GO TO A 27J SCHOOL?"

- AMANDA RUYBAL

CHECKING MY NOTES. Standing in front of a crowd, Amanda Ruybal '19 reads a speech she prepared to persuade the District 27J Board of Education to pursue a Mill Levy override measure on the November ballot. The district only received \$43 per pupil in funding compared to other neighboring districts. photo by b. erger

JUST THE FACTS
GENERAL INFORMATION FROM RESULTS TO MISCONCEPTIONS SURROUNDING 3D MILL LEVY AROUND THE MILL

WHAT'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A BOND AND MILL LEVY?

BONDS: funds used for infrastructures like building and renovating schools.

MILLS: funds used to pay for things in the classroom which can include technology. It also is spent on teaching salaries.

IF PASSED, WHAT WOULD 3D FUND IN DISTRICT 27J?

1-TO-WEB: 2 Million Dollars
CURRICULUM: 1.6 Million Dollars
SALARIES: 6 Million Dollars
CHARTER: 2.4 Million Dollars

TOTAL: 12 Million Dollars

WHAT WERE THE RESULTS OF THE 3D ELECTION?

YES 47.76% 9,094

NO 52.24% 9,949

TOTAL VOTES: 19,043

RESULTS ACCORDING TO THE ADAMS COUNTY ELECTIONS DIVISION

"WHILE WE ARE DISAPPOINTED WITH THE OUTCOME, WE COULD NOT BE MORE GRATEFUL FOR, AND PROUD OF, THE EFFORTS THE CAMPAIGN AND ALL WHO WORKED SO HARD ON BEHALF OF OUR STUDENTS AND STAFF."

- DR. CHRISTOPHER FIELDER SUPERINTENDENT

LET ME SHARE MY STORY

JANE ARCHULETA SPEAKS TO THE BOARD AND COMMUNITY ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF UNDERFUNDING ON STUDENTS AND FAMILIES



THE IAM27J CAMPAIGN ASKED PEOPLE TO SHARE THEIR PERSONAL STORIES With more than 24 years in the school district, Jane Archuleta, English and Theatre teacher, was asked to speak at the Board of Education meeting.

While also being a member of the community, Archuleta first spoke about how she had been part of each mill levy and bond elections and how the lack of funding had been difficult to support instruction and the education of all students in the high school.

"I DIDN'T PLAN ON SPEAKING THAT NIGHT, BUT OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS TO HEAR ALL OF OUR STORIES," ARCHULETA SAID "MY SON IS ALSO A TEACHER, AND HE TEACHES IN OKLAHOMA. AS MUCH AS HE WANTS TO COME HOME AND GIVE BACK TO HIS COMMUNITY, FINANCIALLY HE CAN'T AFFORD TO BECAUSE OUR DISTRICT DOESN'T HAVE THE FUNDS TO PAY TEACHERS COMPARED TO OTHER DISTRICTS."

IT IS LIKE A NEW BUILDING



SECURITY KIOSK

In the Main Lobby, a security kiosk was built for visitors to check in before heading to the main office. It also was a spot for security and administration to be stationed throughout the day.

"THE SECURITY DESK HAS HELPED LOTS OF PEOPLE SEE ME, AND THE MORE PEOPLE SEE ME THE MORE I LOOK GOOD AND KEEP EVERYONE SAFE," PHIL ANAGOR, SECURITY, SAID.



DAWG DINER

A new room was added to the Dawg Diner to sit more students. The new addition also included a battery charging station for students to charge their electronics.

"THE AREA USED TO BE TOO SMALL FOR EVERYONE TO COME IN AND SIT DOWN, BUT I THINK IT WAS A GOOD IDEA TO ADD MORE SPACE TO THE DINER," CURBIN SNEATH '20 SAID.

2015 3C BOND MONEY PROVIDES HIGH SCHOOL WITH NEW SECURITY KIOSK AND INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES



NEW WINDOWS AND SIDING

Over the summer, staff and students were not allowed in various parts of the building as construction workers put in new windows and siding around the school.

"BEFORE THE REMODEL, OUR SCHOOL ON THE OUTSIDE DID NOT GIVE A GOOD FIRST IMPRESSION. WE CERTAINLY NEEDED TO UPGRADE," ELIZABETH ONG '19 SAID.

photos by a. apodaca and w. satler



"THE BEST PART OF JUNIOR YEAR HAS BEEN ALL MY TEACHERS LIKE MRS. [ROBIN] ROMERO. THEY ALL HAVE BEEN SO GREAT AND HELPFUL. THEY HELP ME IN EVERYTHING I ASK AND EVERY TEACHER HAS THEIR OWN STYLE."

DANIEL SANCHEZ '19



"I LIKED GOING TO ALL OF THE SCHOOL GAMES. IT'S FUN BECAUSE EVERYBODY COMES TOGETHER, AND WE ALWAYS JUST HAVE A GOOD TIME. EVERY SPORTING EVENT IS DIFFERENT AND FUN."

ALEXANDRA ATKINS '19



"THIS YEAR, SOFTBALL WAS MY FAVORITE THING TO DO. I GOT TO PLAY WITH ALL OF MY BEST FRIENDS AND GOT THE PRACTICE I NEEDED TO BETTER MYSELF FOR MY FUTURE. THE SEASON WAS GREAT."

BROOKE OBERHAUS '19



"MY FAVORITE PART OF THIS YEAR IS ALL OF THE OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL. I GOT THE CHANCE TO HELP MY COUSIN [BRANDON SIPRES] TAKE ON HIS DREAM OF BEING ON THE RADIO TO DJ."

KEVIN GALLEGOS '19

THIS IS A
DAY IN
MY

WORLD

WYATT
VERBEEK
DESCRIBES
HIS SCHEDULE
ON A TYPICAL
SCHOOL DAY

6:00 A.M.
"I GET UP AROUND SIX, AND AFTER GETTING READY, I GO FEED THE CALVES AND THEN FEED THE COWS THEIR GRAIN. THEN, I CHECK THE WATERING TROUGH, AND IF THERE'S ICE I BREAK THEM UP."

7:45 A.M.
"I GET TO SCHOOL AND HEAD TO MY FIRST CLASS, SPANISH II. THROUGHOUT THE DAY, I TAKE CLASSES LIKE AMERICAN LITERATURE, STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING, AND ALGEBRA II."

2:30 P.M.
"AFTER MY VETERINARIAN SCIENCE CLASS, I GO TO MY JOB AS A RANCH HAND FOR A FARM IN FIRESTONE. I WORK THERE FOR ANYWHERE FOR THREE TO FOUR HOURS DEPENDING ON ALL OF THE WORK I NEED TO DO."

6:30 P.M.
"AFTER WORK, I COME HOME AND CHECK THE COWS. IF THEY NEED MORE HAY I BRING THEM A BALE AND THEN WATER THEM. I ALSO COMPLETE OTHER CHORES."

8:00 P.M.
"AFTER MY CHORES ARE DONE, I EAT MY DINNER AND DO ALL OF THE HOMEWORK I HAVE. THEN, I THE REST OF THE EVENING IS MINE AND I GET READY TO DO IT ALL AGAIN."

"IN THE AGRICULTURE WORLD YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT. YOU CAN DRIVE TRACTORS AND ATVS. YOU GET TO INTERACT WITH ANIMALS, GROW CROPS, AND YOU PROVIDE FOR YOUR FAMILY. IT IS A WHOLE DIFFERENT WAY OF LIFE."

- WYATT VERBEEK

SITTING ON THE FORKS. Wyatt Verbeek '19 sits on his father's tractor while his friends, Lloyd Atkins '19 and Kody Ward '21, feed the calves on a Saturday morning. photo by s. demers

EAT FROM MY HAND. Wyatt Verbeek '19 herds his cows around the feed while completing one of his morning chores on his farm. photo by s. demers
TIME TO COMPETE. Wyatt Verbeek '19 presents his prime goat while competing at the Adams County Fair. "I get a sense of achievement whenever I place well when showing my animals. My placing in competitions show a lot about how well I train my livestock and that makes me proud," Verbeek said. photo by b. engel
DRIVING MY TRACTOR. To pick up a bale of hay, Wyatt Verbeek '19 redirects his tractor. photo by s. demers

BE
CAUSE
I AM A
COUNTRY
BOY

AT JUST THE AGE OF FIVE, WYATT VERBEEK '19 FOUND HIS LOVE FOR THE AGRICULTURAL LIFE.

Growing up driving tractors, ATV's, and having the freedom to raise his own farm animals was just part of the daily routine for Verbeek.

"IT'S SO MUCH FUN. IT'S LIKE A NEW ADVENTURE THAT COMES EVERY SINGLE DAY. I LOVE THE FREEDOM THAT I GET, WHICH COMES ALONG WITH THE AGRICULTURE LIFE I LIVE," VERBEEK SAID.

Verbeek started raising his own animals at the age of seven such as cows and goats. When Verbeek turned 14, he competed in his first competition showing his goats that he raised since birth. His goat competitions were held at the Adams County Fair Grounds at the end of the summer.

"THE COMPETITION AT THE FAIR LASTS FOR TWO DAYS. ONCE YOU WEIGH YOUR GOAT, YOU ARE PUT INTO A WEIGHT CLASS," VERBEEK SAID. "I HAVE GOTTEN SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH PLACE OVER THE YEARS."

On his off time, Verbeek worked as a "Ranch Hand" at a farm in Firestone. He helped take care of other animals, builds new fences and irrigate the corn fields.

"I MAINLY DO WHAT I DO AT HOME LIKE WATER AND FEED ANIMALS. I BUILD FENCES FOR NEW PENS AND IN THE SUMMER I RUN THE HAY EQUIPMENT WITH THE TRACTOR, I IRRIGATE THE CORNFIELDS AND HAYFIELDS. I ALSO MOVE THE COWS TO PASTURE," VERBEEK SAID "I PLAN ON HAVING MY OWN CATTLE RANCH SOMEWHERE. NOTHING REALLY DRAWS MY ATTENTION LIKE THE RANCHING LIFE DOES."

